

Date: Thu, 20 May 93 17:58:13 PDT  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #613  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Thu, 20 May 93                      Volume 93 : Issue    613

Today's Topics:

                    10-4, Rubber Duck?  
                    A Yagi at 11,000 feet (2 msgs)  
                    Don't get ripped off by a G5RV  
                    Handling low audio levels into DSPs (was Timewave DSP-9)  
                    REAL Mods for the HTX-202  
                    Weekly Solar Terrestrial Forecast & Review for 21 May

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

-----  
Date: 20 May 93 18:25:28 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: 10-4, Rubber Duck?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The other day I stopped in to my local photofinishing place. The woman  
behind the counter noted that I hadn't been in in quite a while and asked  
"What's new?" I told her I had gotten back into ham radio. "Oh, that sounds  
exciting! Do you know a friend of mine called "The Georgia Peach?"

\*sigh\*

-----  
Date: Thu, 20 May 1993 00:33:08 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!  
ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!crcnis1.unl.edu!news.unomaha.edu!nevada.edu!jimi!

physics.unr.edu!equinox!arthurj@network.  
Subject: A Yagi at 11,000 feet  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

My friend N7PQ0 will be spending six weeks at a scientific research site in Greenland. He hopes to take his transceiver and keep in touch with family and friends back here in Reno, NV. Beyond that, he expects to work QSO's aplenty with American hams and probably many others. I'll be his stateside manager for QSL purposes and possibly phone patch traffic if we can get the Danish government to make an exception to the no-third-party-traffic rule.

The scientific station is set up at the very summit of Greenland's ice pack, 11,000 feet above bed rock. The main research there, in fact, is taking a core sample of the ice all the way to the bottom, and making various studies that will lead to a better understanding of climatic conditions going back roughly 200,000 years.

My friend (his name's Mike Savage) and I have been debating what kind of antenna will best serve our purposes. A tower and rotator are probably out of the question. We've been thinking about a multiband vertical like an R5 or R7. However, we have begun to think about a wire Yagi, supported on wooden poles just a few feet above the ice surface, and directed at the west coast of the U.S.

My question for you all to ponder and respond to: Does an antenna located on an 11,000-foot-thick ice shelf "see" the ice surface to an appreciable extent, or does it work like a Yagi (for example) in free space? If the latter is true, it seems Mike could hope to build a many-element wire Yagi for optimized communications with us here in the west, and then maybe use a simpler antenna like a vertical or dipole for casual DX with the rest of the world.

He leaves about June 9. I would be grateful to receive informed opinions in the next few days so we can make our plans on that basis.

Thanks in advance.

-Arthur W. Johnson, AA7UT  
Fleischmann Planetarium  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, NV 89557  
phone (702) 784-4812  
fax (702) 784-4822

-----  
Date: Thu, 20 May 1993 00:14:29 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!  
ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!crcnis1.unl.edu!news.unomaha.edu!nevada.edu!jimi!

physics.unr.edu!equinox!arthurj@network.  
Subject: A Yagi at 11,000 feet  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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-Arthur W. Johnson, AA7UT  
Fleischmann Planetarium  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, NV 89557  
phone (702) 784-4812  
fax (702) 784-4822

-----  
Date: 20 May 93 19:37:08 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Don't get ripped off by a G5RV

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Ed, W1AAZ may have all the technical ducks in a row regarding SWR, losses, etc., but I'll swear by G5RV. Using a TS820s (100W) and a G5RV at 12 feet (now 15 ft) off the ground, I've been able to work every state in the US, each Canadian province, Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Of course, I use an antenna tuner, and it may be that I get a lot of feed-line radiation. Whatever, I go by results vs dollars invested. IMO, the G5RV is the best antenna for the price available anywhere.

73,

Dube

AB5AP

<dube@cpdvax.csc.ti.com>

-----  
Date: 20 May 93 17:52:57 GMT

From: ogicse!uwm.edu!cs.utexas.edu!csc.ti.com!tilde.csc.ti.com!fstop.csc.ti.com!linnig@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Handling low audio levels into DSPs (was Timewave DSP-9)

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <"20-May-93.11:03:41.CDT".\*.RICK\_A.\_MARTIN.OKLAHOMA\_CITY@Xerox.com> RICK\_A.\_MARTIN.OKLAHOMA\_CITY@xerox.COM writes:

> The random noise filter does REDUCE the amount of background noise. It does  
> not ELIMINATE it completely. There is some degradation to weak audio signals  
> in this mode. But I have found that the trade off is worth it. When casually  
> monitoring or scanning the bands I leave the filter on and find that it cuts  
> fatigue and stress by reducing the static and hiss. But, on weak DX that may  
> not have great audio to start with, I turn the filter off during the QSO.

I have the W9GR DSP audio filter that was in QST. Nice!

I solved the distortion and masking of weak signals (low audio levels) by putting an audio automatic level control circuit in the input side of the DSP filter. This brings up weak audio so the DSP can get full range on its analog to digital converter. It also prevents a sudden loud signal from overdriving the DSP (which really sounds terrible).

This ALC (compandor) circuit was in the Feb 1993 issue of Electronics Now Magazine (formerly Popular Electronics?). The author is Steve Szabo, N1AY0.

He offers the circuit board and parts as a kit or assembled. I think the assembled version was about \$30 bucks. The parts only version was cheaper. It is only about 2.25 inches on a side. If anyone needs the details drop me some email.

If you are interested in the W9GR DSP, drop him a note at

dlh@gvgdsd.gvg.tek.com (David L. Hershberger)

-- Mike, N5QAW

```
-----+-----+
Mike Linnig, Texas Instruments Inc. | 97.43% of all statistics are made |
Phone: (214) 575-3597                | up; most of them (83.6 percent)   |
Internet: mike.linnig@dseg.ti.com    | are wrong.                      |
-----
```

-----  
Date: 20 May 93 13:18:25 EST  
From: titan.ksc.nasa.gov!k4dii.ksc.nasa.gov!user@ames.arpa  
Subject: REAL Mods for the HTX-202  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Re-Posted from Packet:

-----  
Date: 20 May 93 22:52:33 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Weekly Solar Terrestrial Forecast & Review for 21 May  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

--- SOLAR TERRESTRIAL FORECAST AND REVIEW ---  
May 21 to May 30, 1993

Report Released by Solar Terrestrial Dispatch  
P.O. Box 357, Stirling, Alberta, Canada  
T0K 2E0  
Accessible BBS System: (403) 756-3008

-----  
SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY FORECASTS AT A GLANCE  
-----

10-DAY SOLAR/RADIO/MAGNETIC/AURORAL ACTIVITY OUTLOOK

	10.7 cm	HF Propagation	+/-	CON	SID		AU.BKSR	DX	Mag	Aurora	
	SolrFlx	LO MI HI PO SWF	%MUF	%	ENH LO MI HI	LO MI HI	%	K Ap	LO MI HI		
21	090	G G F P	10 -05	80	10 NA NA NA	00 05 10 30	2 10	NV NV	LO		
22	095	G G F F	15 -05	75	15 NA NA NA	00 05 10 30	2 10	NV NV	LO		
23	095	G G F F	20 00	75	20 NA NA NA	01 05 10 30	2 10	NV NV	LO		



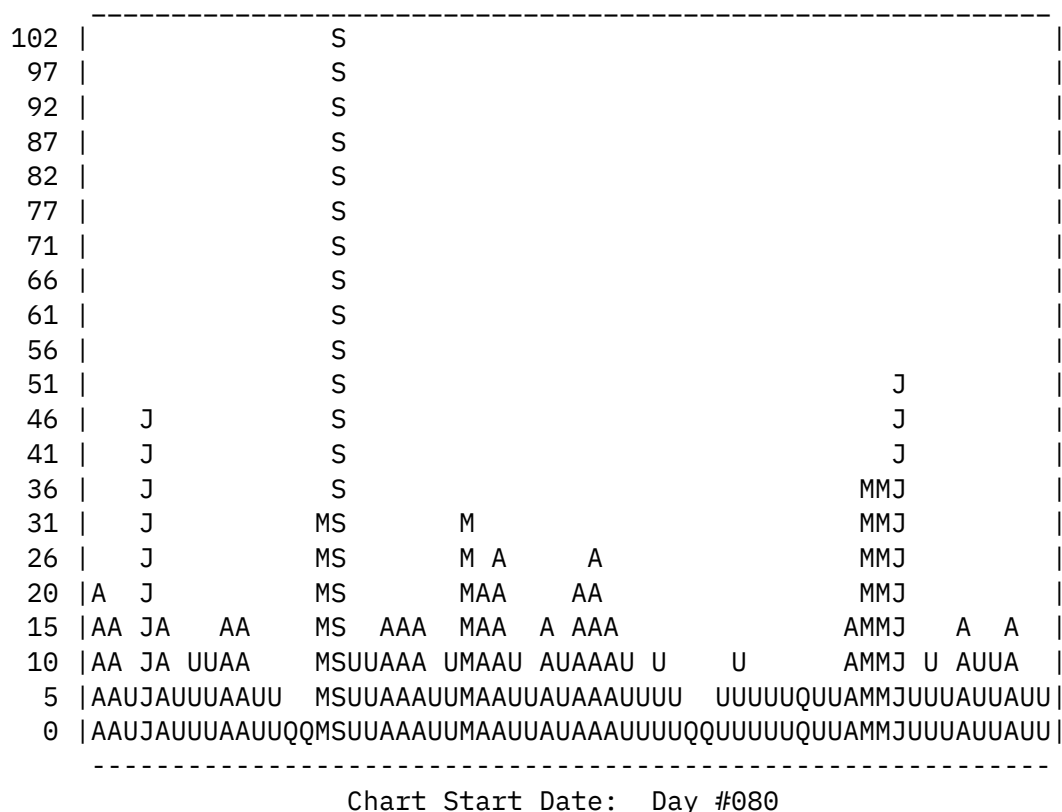
Geomagnetic Field	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Anomaly
Conditions	Given in 8-hour UT intervals									Intensity	

CONFIDENCE LEVEL: 75%

#### NOTES:

Predicted geomagnetic activity is based heavily on recurrent phenomena. Transient energetic solar events cannot be predicted reliably over periods in excess of several days. Hence, there may be some deviations from the predictions due to the unpredictable transient solar component.

#### 60-DAY GRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY



#### NOTES:

This graph is determined by plotting the greater of either the planetary A-index or the Boulder A-index. Graph lines are labelled according to the severity of the activity which occurred on each day. The left-hand column represents the associated A-Index for that day.  
 Q = Quiet, U = Unsettled, A = Active, M = Minor Storm,  
 J = Major Storm, and S = Severe Storm.

CUMULATIVE GRAPHICAL CHART OF THE 10.7 CM SOLAR RADIO FLUX

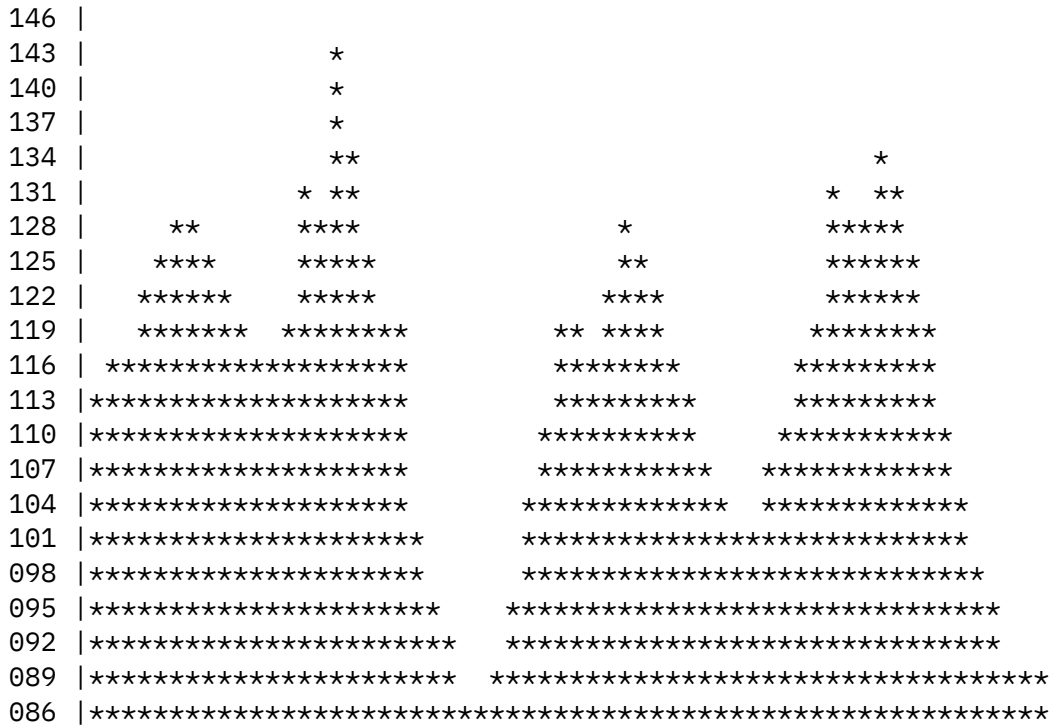


Chart Start: Day #083

GRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF 90-DAY AVERAGE SOLAR FLUX



Chart Start: Day #083



NOTES:

The 10.7 cm solar radio flux is plotted from data reported by the Penticton Radio Observatory (formerly the ARO from Ottawa). High solar flux levels denote higher levels of activity and a greater number of sunspot groups on the Sun. The 90-day mean solar flux graph is charted from the 90-day mean of the 10.7 cm solar radio flux.

### CUMULATIVE GRAPHICAL CHART OF SUNSPOT NUMBERS

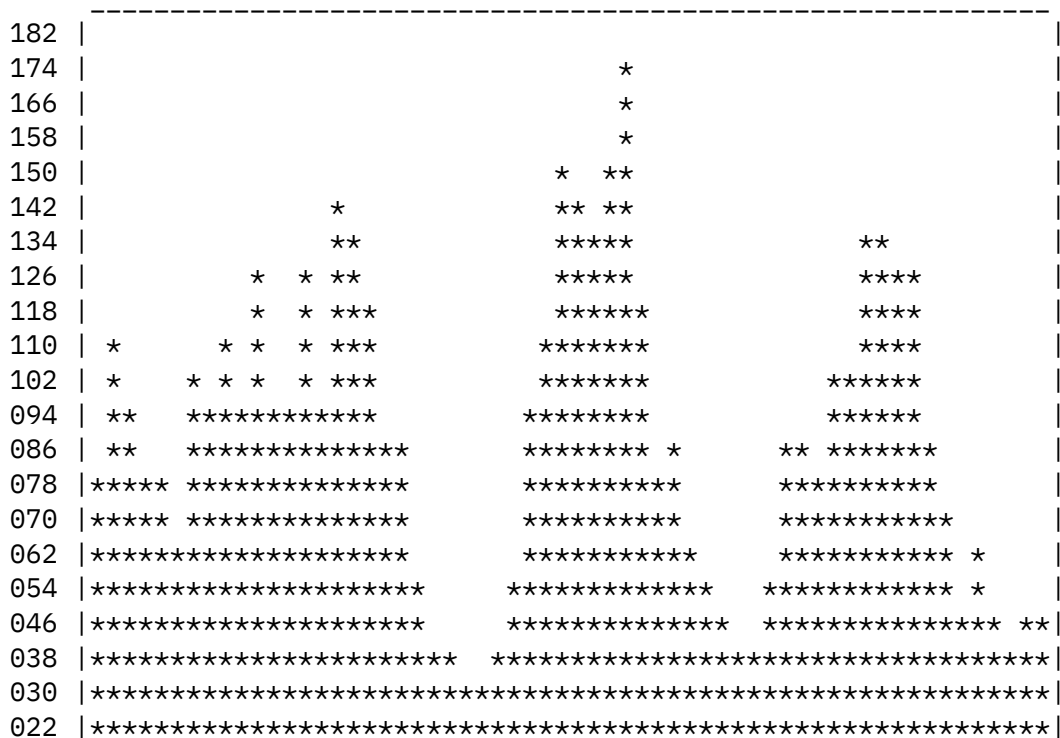


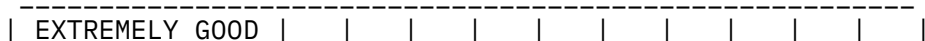
Chart Start: Day #083

NOTES:

The graphical chart of sunspot numbers is created from the daily sunspot number counts as reported by the SESC.

HF RADIO SIGNAL PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS (21 MAY - 30 MAY)

## High Latitude Paths



CONFIDENCE LEVEL ----- 70%	VERY GOOD												
	GOOD												
	FAIR	***	***	***	***	***	***	**	**	**	***		
	POOR							*	*	*			
	VERY POOR												
	EXTREMELY POOR												
-----		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
PROPAGATION QUALITY		Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
		Given in 8 Local-Hour Intervals											
-----		-----											

#### Middle Latitude Paths

CONFIDENCE LEVEL ----- 75%	EXTREMELY GOOD												
	VERY GOOD												
	GOOD	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	FAIR												
	POOR												
	VERY POOR												
	EXTREMELY POOR												
-----		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
PROPAGATION QUALITY		Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
		Given in 8 Local-Hour Intervals											
-----		-----											

#### Low Latitude Paths

CONFIDENCE LEVEL ----- 80%	EXTREMELY GOOD												
	VERY GOOD												
	GOOD	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	FAIR												
	POOR												
	VERY POOR												
	EXTREMELY POOR												
-----		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
PROPAGATION QUALITY		Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
		Given in 8 Local-Hour Intervals											
-----		-----											

#### NOTES:

NORTHERN HEMISPHERE				SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE			
High latitudes	>= 55	deg. N.		High latitudes	>= 55	deg. S.	
Middle latitudes	>= 40 < 55	deg. N.		Middle latitudes	>= 30 < 55	deg. S.	
Low latitudes	< 40	deg. N.		Low latitudes	< 30	deg. S.	

POTENTIAL VHF DX PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS (21 MAY - 30 MAY)

INCLUDES SID AND AURORAL BACKSCATTER ENHANCEMENT PREDICTIONS

# HIGH LATITUDES

FORECAST	Given in 8 hour local time intervals										SWF/SID ENHANCEMENT									
CONFIDENCE	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
											-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
20%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	20%			*	*	*	*	*	*	*
40%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	40%									
60%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	60%									
80%											80%									
100%											100%									
=====	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	-----									
100%											100%									
80%											80%									
60%											60%									
40%											40%									
20%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	20%				*	*	*	*	*	*
0%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	- - - - -									
CHANCE OF	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
VHF DX	Given in 8 hour local time intervals										AURORAL BACKSCATTER									

# MIDDLE LATITUDES

FORECAST	Given in 8 hour local time intervals										SWF/SID ENHANCEMENT									
CONFIDENCE	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
											-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
20%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	20%			*	*	*	*	*	*	*
40%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	40%			*	*	*	*	*	*	*
60%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	60%									
80%											80%									
100%											100%									
=====	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	===	-----									
100%											100%									
80%											80%									
60%											60%									
40%	**	**	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	*	40%									
20%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	20%									
0%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	- - - - -									
CHANCE OF	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
VHF DX	Given in 8 hour local time intervals										AURORAL BACKSCATTER									

# LOW LATITUDES

FORECAST   Given in 8 hour local time intervals											SWF/SID ENHANCEMENT										
CONFIDENCE	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
0%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
20%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	20%		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
40%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	40%			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
60%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	60%										
80%											80%										
100%											100%										
=====	==	==	==	==	==	==	==	==	==	==		-----									
100%											100%										
80%											80%										
60%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	60%										
40%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	40%										
20%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	20%										
0%	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHANCE OF	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
VHF DX	Given in 8 hour local time intervals										AURORAL BACKSCATTER										

NOTES:

These VHF DX prediction charts are defined for the 30 MHz to 220 MHz bands. They are based primarily on phenomena which can affect VHF DX propagation globally. They should be used only as a guide to potential DX conditions on VHF bands. Latitudinal boundaries are the same as those for the HF predictions charts.

## AURORAL ACTIVITY PREDICTIONS (21 MAY - 30 MAY)

## High Latitude Locations

CONFIDENCE LEVEL ----- 70%	EXTREMELY HIGH											
	VERY HIGH											
	HIGH											
	MODERATE						*	*	*			
	LOW	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	NOT VISIBLE	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	AURORAL	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
	INTENSITY	Eve.Twilight/Midnight/Morn.Twilight										

## Middle Latitude Locations

EXTREMELY HIGH | | | | | | | | | |

CONFIDENCE	VERY HIGH												
LEVEL	HIGH												
-----	MODERATE												
70%	LOW												
	NOT VISIBLE	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	AURORAL	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
	INTENSITY	Eve.Twilight/Midnight/Morn.Twilight											
	-----												

#### Low Latitude Locations

	EXTREMELY HIGH												
CONFIDENCE	VERY HIGH												
LEVEL	HIGH												
-----	MODERATE												
95%	LOW												
	NOT VISIBLE	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	AURORAL	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
	INTENSITY	Eve.Twilight/Midnight/Morn.Twilight											
	-----												

#### NOTE:

A Dynamic Auroral Oval Simulation and Prediction Software Package is available to help make predictions and show the locations where auroral activity should be visible from the ground. For more information regarding this software, contact: "Oler@Rho.Uleth.CA", or "COler@Solar.Stanford.Edu".

For more information regarding these charts, send a request for the document, "Understanding Solar Terrestrial Reports" to: "Oler@Rho.Uleth.Ca" or to: "COler@Solar.Stanford.Edu". This document, as well as others and related data/forecasts exist on the STD BBS at: (403) 756-3008.

\*\* End of Report \*\*

Date: Thu, 20 May 1993 16:03:14 GMT

From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!asuvax!ennews!anasaz!misty!john@network.UCSD.EDU

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <9305191754.AA00648@ucsd.edu>, <1993May19.190243.7277@wkuvx1.bitnet>, <SBROWN.93May20063345@charon.dseg.ti.com>t

Subject : Re: 2 Meters and Airlines

sbrown@charon.dseg.ti.com (Steve Brown) writes:

]In article <1993May19.190243.7277@wkuvx1.bitnet> scottcr@wkuvx1.bitnet writes:

]> In article <9305191754.AA00648@ucsd.edu>, ST1860@SIUCVMB.SIU.EDU (Gary R. Smith KE9MI) writes:

]> > Hi-

]> > I am getting ready to take a rather long trip by air and I was wondering i

]> > f anybody knew what the regulations were for operating a 2 meter rig

]> > aboard an commercial airplane.

]> >

]> > I have heard 2 conflicting reports...First, I have heard it down right il

]> > legal to do so. The other was it's okay if the pilot says it alright...

]> > Does anybody know the right awnser?? I would appreciate it....

]I'll put my two cents worth in. Unless the rules have changed drastically

]since my last exposure to them (circa 1976), both answers are correct:

]it's illegal and the pilot can give you permission.

]I believe the way it works is it's illegal but the pilot is the commander

]of the aircraft and has the ultimate responsibility for the safety of

]the passengers, etc. If the pilot choses to overlook the regulation

]which says you can't use your two meter rig ( or any other electronic

]device ) in his plane, then he can do so.

This is not true. The pilot CANNOT override the rule UNLESS he feels it  
is REQUIRED for safety of flight - and then he had better be ready to  
justify it to the FAA.

--

John Moore NJ7E, 7525 Clearwater Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85253 (602-951-9326)

john@anasazi.com ncar!noao!asuvax!anasaz!john anasaz!john@asuvax.eas.asu.edu

"Government is the agent of those who are too refined to do their own mugging."

Joseph Sobran

-----  
Date: (null)

From: (null)

Hello to all HTX-202 users from KB9FAI Montello Wi. .

Yes beleive it or not I found an UNPUBLISHED mod for the HTX-202 and will  
be forwarding this to R.S. , etc.

I was looking at the Alinco DJ-580, the salesperson pointed out a lock  
feature on the display/keyboard to illuminate the rig for mobile operation.

I wish my rig(202) did that. would be nice in the truck.....

So on Feb. 7 / 93 while listening to a local net I was playing around with  
it. This mod/feature will cause the display to remain ON rather than

shutting off after the 5 second light delay. Mine has now been on 2 hr.  
and the display is only a little warm.

Do the following :

- 1 ) Press the F key ( upper left side above PTT )
- 2 ) While holding this key in press the L key ( under PTT )
- 3 ) Thats all ! Enjoy your radio in the dark !

Hope this little option/feature helps all of you that wanted an  
illuminated HTX-202 ! I know I will enjoy mine ALOT more !!!

You are all very welcome, 73's de KB9FAI, Randy Mueller  
Send any replies via packet to WB9ZRE @ RIPON WI.  
BYE !

--- End of message to INFO @ALLUS from KB9FAI ---

-----  
Date: Thu, 20 May 1993 18:45:58 GMT  
From: news.acns.nwu.edu!casbah.acns.nwu.edu!rdewan@network.UCSD.EDU  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <15051@news.duke.edu>, <1993May19.190231.10108@news.acns.nwu.edu>,  
<1993May20.163433.25796@peavax.mlo.dec.com>  
Subject : Re: Signal report etiquette

In article <1993May20.163433.25796@peavax.mlo.dec.com> reisert@mlo.dec.com writes:

>

>I generally give out 3 signal reports:

>

> 59(9) perfect copy

> 57(9) not strong but I can copy everything

> 55(9) very weak, but can exchange reports OK

>

>If the DX station is working them fast, and giving out 59's to  
>everyone, you should do the same. Chances are the DX is going to log  
>the received report as 59(9) anyway, especially if s/he's using  
>computer logging.

>

This is what most operators on the CW bands seem to do. I do this too. In  
addition:

449 for copy of call and sig report and not much else

339 for copy of just call sign - usually a broken qso

I know that this is not as described in the Handbook. I think  
of it as a coarser decription with "fewer bits" of resolution.

Rajiv  
aa9ch  
Address: r-dewan@nwu.edu  
Phone: None. Only CW.

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #613  
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